



Natural Resources Conservation Service
375 Jackson Street, Suite 600
St. Paul, MN 55101-1854

Phone: (651) 602-7900
FAX: (651) 602-7914

NEWS RELEASE

Contact Person: Steve Sellnow, District Conservationist, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Telephone: (320)-251-7800 #3

CSP INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS PLANNED IN THE SAUK WATERSHED

Waite Park, MN, January 5, 2005 – The Conservation Security Program (CSP) is a voluntary program that offers payments to topnotch conservation farmers. Unlike other programs that help farmers correct resource problems, CSP rewards those who already act as model conservationists. It also pays qualified farmers to do further environmental enhancements, such as additional conservation treatments, monitoring, on-farm demonstrations and more.

In order to be eligible for CSP, farmers need to implement proper nutrient management practices, such as soil testing, analyzing manure nutrients and following University of MN fertilizer recommendations.

For farmers located in the Sauk Watershed, a sign-up for CSP will occur in February or March of 2005. Landowners interested in signing up for CSP should attend one of the following informational meetings planned in the Sauk Watershed:

Monday	January 10, 10 am to Noon (St. Martin Parish Hall)
Monday	January 10, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm (Melrose City Hall)
Thursday	January 13, 10 am to Noon (Sauk Centre NEW City Hall)
Thursday	January 13, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm (Waite Park City Hall)
Wednesday	January 19, 10 am to Noon (Spring Hill Horseshoe Bar)
Wednesday	January 19, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm (Eden Valley Senior Center)
Tuesday	January 25, 10 am to Noon (Freeport Charlie's Café)
Tuesday	January 25, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm (Cold Spring American Legion)
Thursday	January 27, 10 am to Noon (Roscoe Roadside Tavern)
Thursday	January 27, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm (Sauk Centre New City Hall)

Self-assessment workbooks will be available at the public meetings listed above. NRCS and SWCD staff will provide an overview of the CSP in the Sauk Watershed and review the workbooks at these meetings.

Landowners with general questions about CSP can visit the USDA NRCS web site at: <http://www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp/csp.html>. In addition, there is a poster available at: http://www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp/sauk/poster_sauk_stearns.pdf that can be downloaded and posted.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer